

Deny Cover Sheet in toto citing FOIA exemptions (b)(3).

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Date December 1997

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21 February 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Vice Admiral John M. Poindexter
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

FROM: Charles E. Allen
National Intelligence Officer for Counterterrorism

SUBJECT: DCI-Hostage Location Task Force Report

Highlights:

-- The capture of two Israeli soldiers in Lebanon complicates the
hostage situation in Lebanon. [

Israeli sweep operations in southern Lebanon continue and have
produced a number of clashes with Shia forces.

-- Clashes in the Basta section of West Beirut between Hizballah and
Amal militias have resulted in a tightening of security in the
area.

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-- OS officials have been approached by a number of individuals claiming to have access to Western hostages. Most of these claims probably are false, but we are, nevertheless, pursuing every lead aggressively.

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[REDACTED]
Charles E. Allen

Attachment:
As stated

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SUBJECT: DCI-Hostage Location Task Force Report

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(21 FEBRUARY 1986)

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Report by the DCI Hostage Location Task Force: 15 - 21 February 1986

American Hostages

The security and welfare of the American hostages in Beirut may be affected by the capture and imprisonment of two Israeli Defense Force soldiers. Captured in Southern Lebanon by Hizballah elements, [

] See ANNEX I for details.

Peggy Say, sister of hostage Terry Anderson, recently delivered through Department of State channels an appeal to Syrian President Assad to assist in securing Anderson's release. The appeal was made on humanitarian grounds because Anderson's father was gravely ill. The appeal, the fact that Anderson's father died last weekend, and that Anderson's brother has had a heart attack, have been passed to Damascus and to Terry Waite in London.

The Waite Initiative

The Kuwaitis continue to be wary of Terry Waite initiatives. They are apparently convinced that his efforts to promote a mail exchange between the Da'wa prisoners and the American hostage-holders in Lebanon will only result in further pressure on them to release the Da'wa prisoners.

Waite's planned trip to both Israel and Beirut had been delayed because of the situation in southern Lebanon resulting from the capture of the two IDP soldiers. It now appears that his departure from London to Beirut is imminent.

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French Hostages

Senior French officials told US diplomats earlier this week that the
hostage situation is "completely blocked."

See ANNEX II on status of French hostages.

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The Arabic press and radio ...
Ballag a Lebanese Jew taken hostage last year, had been executed as an
agent of the Mossad. [

] Details are included in

ANNEX V.

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Other Developments

Several individuals claiming to have access to the hostages, or those holding them, have approached US officials at various times. We consider most of their claims as spurious with the ulterior motive of obtaining funds, visas, or other considerations. We are, however, pursuing each lead vigorously. Before any commitment is made to any individual, we request proof of the claim (pictures, letters, videotapes, etc.).

As a matter of interest, a picture of a "martyrdom" poster showing Mughaniyah's brother is at ANNEX IV.

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Reported Execution of Dr. Hallaq

On 11 February, the "Organization of the Oppressed" (Tanzim al-Muqadamat) informed the Lebanese newspaper, al-Nahar that Dr. Ili Halak, a Lebanese Jewish physician, had been executed. There has been no confirmation of his death, however. [

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The "Organization of the Oppressed" is believed to be a cover-name for Hizballah-sponsored terrorist operations directed primarily against Israel. The name has been used previously. In June 1985, the TWA 847 hijackers identified their organization as the Organization of the Oppressed. In November 1985, the group that kidnapped four Lebanese Jews, accusing them of being spies for Israel, also identified itself as the Organization of the Oppressed.

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The Organization's key demand for release of the Lebanese Jews was that the Lebanese Shia prisoners held by Israel be released. When this demand was not met by late December 1985, two of the Jewish hostages were executed. Another Lebanese Jew was executed on 16 February, and his body was dumped in a vegetable market in West Beirut.

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Attached is a photograph of a martyr's poster for Jihad Fayiz Mughaniyah, the younger brother of Imad Fayiz Mughaniyah, Hizballah security chief and leader of the captors holding the American hostages.

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Top line above the gun - Hizballah are the victors

Large script - Hizballah (also used as Hizballah logo)

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Small script, line 1 - The martyr and fighter Jihad Fayiz Mughaniyah
Born in Tayr Dibbe, 1966

line 2 - He participated in the resistance against the
Zionist occupation in Beirut and the South.
He participated in the battles in defense of
the Muslims in the southern suburbs (of
Beirut).

line 3 - He was martyred at the hands of the new
Zionists (the Phalange) in the savage shelling
of Beirut and the southern suburbs on 11
February 1984.

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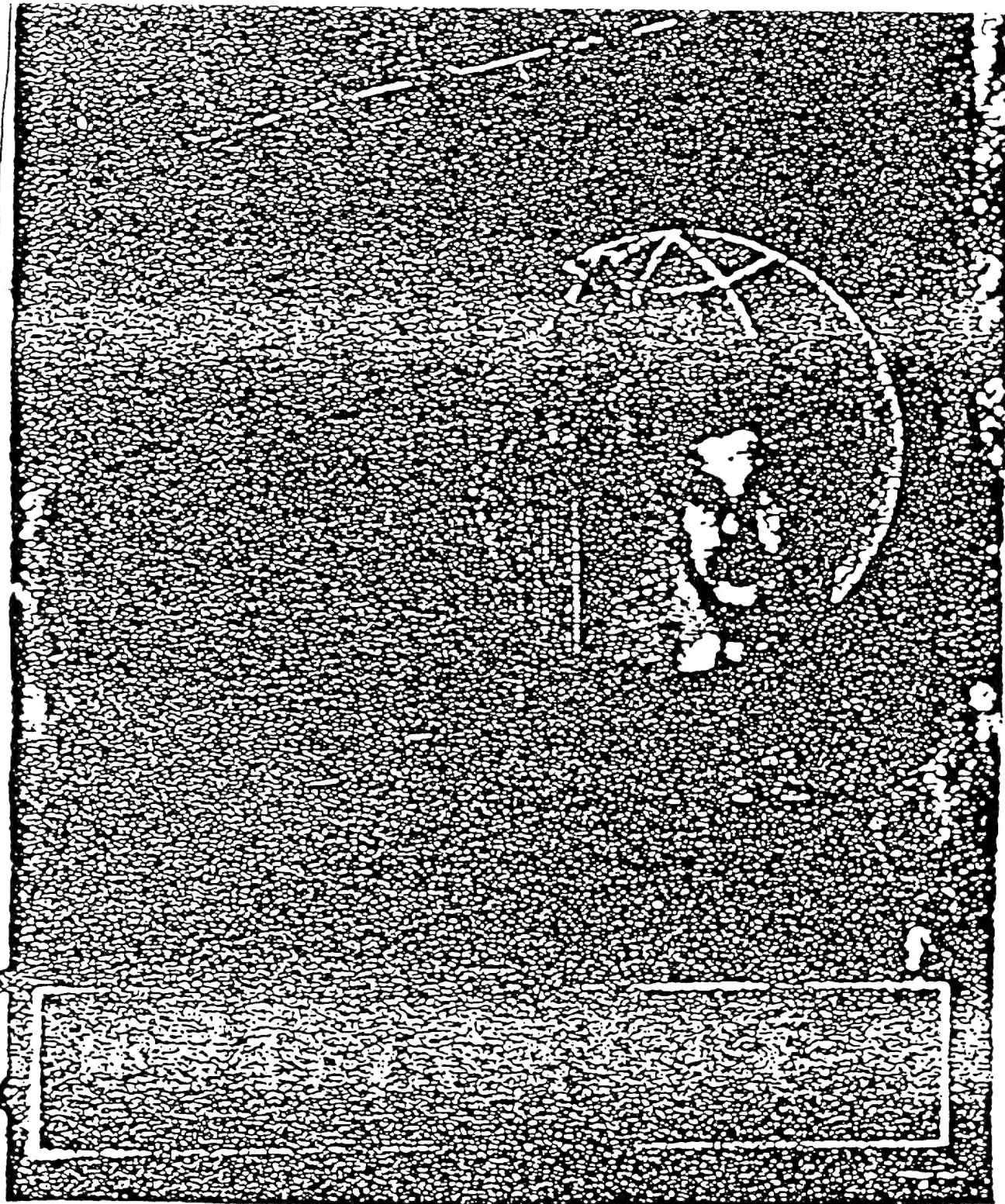
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